



COMMENCEMENT  
1977

## THE ACADEMIC REGALIA

In its essential features, the academic regalia worn at American College exercises had its beginning in the Middle Ages.

The oldest Universities of Northern Europe grew out of church schools, and both faculty and students were regarded as a part of the clergy. Hence as their regular costume they wore clerical garb, borrowed largely from the monastic dress of their day.

The academic gown and hood were apparently first regularly adopted by the University of Cambridge in 1284, and by the University of Oxford a little later. The custom was transplanted to this country in Colonial times by King's College in New York, now Columbia University.

In 1895 American universities and colleges decided to standardize their academic styles, and developed the intercollegiate code of academic costume. The style follows in the main the Cambridge tradition. The distinctive caps, gowns and hoods worn at present day college and university functions denote the institution that granted the degree, the field of learning in which the degree was earned, and the level of the degree--bachelor, master, or doctorate.

The *gown* is usually of black material (serge or worsted for bachelors, the same or silk for masters, and silk for doctors). Bachelors' gowns have pointed sleeves; masters' have long pouch-like sleeves which reputedly were once used to carry books, sandwiches, etc. Doctors' gowns are faced with panels of velvet down the front and three bars of velvet across each sleeve.

The *hood*, worn around the neck so as to hang down the back, is the principal emblem of the nature and source of the degree held. The colors in the hood lining are the colors of the school conferring the degree. The color of the border indicates the scholarly field of the wearer. Hoods may be worn only after the degree has been granted.

The *cap*, the square mortar-board in American universities, but a round, soft, flat velvet hat in British, Canadian, and some European universities, bears a tassel which may be black or it may be colored according to the scholarly field of the wearer. Only the doctors' cap may be of velvet.

The *degree colors* are appropriate to the category of the degree, rather than to the scholar's major subject. For example, the appropriate color for degrees in Arts and Letters (B.A., M.A., B. Litt.) is *white*; in Commerce, *drab*; in Education, *light blue*; in Engineering, *orange*; in Fine Arts, *brown*; in Humanities, *crimson*; in Law, *purple*; in Library Science, *lemon*; in Medicine, *green*; in Music, *pink*; in Pharmacy, *olive*; in Philosophy (Ph.D.), *dark blue*; in Physical Education, *sage green*; in Science, *golden yellow*; in Theology, *scarlet*. These colors are used for the edging of all hoods, and may be used for the velvet facing and sleeve bars of doctors' gowns and tassels on bachelors' and masters' caps.

F O N T B O N N E   C O L L E G E  
C O M M E N C E M E N T

*Saturday, May 21, 1977, 6:30 p.m.*



C O M M E N C E M E N T      P R O G R A M

ORGANIST.....Sister Mary Shryock, C.S.J., M.M.  
*Associate Professor of Music, Fontbonne College*

PROCESSIONAL (*Pomp and Circumstance Opus 39*).....Edward Elgar

NATIONAL ANTHEM (*Star Spangled Banner*).....Francis Scott Key

INVOCATION.....The Reverend Doctor Rudolph H. Harm  
*Professor of Theology, Concordia Seminary*

INTRODUCTION.....George A. Newton, J.D.  
*Chairman, Board of Trustees, Fontbonne College*

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*Chancellor, Saint Louis University*

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*Academic Dean, Fontbonne College*

CONFERRING OF DEGREES.....Sister Jane Kehoe Hassett, C.S.J., Ph.D.  
*President, Fontbonne College*

PRESENTATION OF ALUMNAE HOOD.....Barbara Schmidt Schlueter, B.A.  
*President, Fontbonne College Alumnae Association*

RECIPIENT.....Nancy Neff

BENEDICTION.....Most Reverend John N. Wurm, S.T.D., V.G.  
*Auxiliary Bishop of St. Louis*

RECESSIONAL (*Toccata from Fifth Symphony Opus 42, No. 5*).....Charles Marie Widor

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\* *cum laude*  
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+ *double major: Mathematics & French*  
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\* *cum laude*  
\*\* *magna cum laude*  
\*\*\* *summa cum laude*  
+ *double major: Mathematics & Business*